

more suitable building than would now appear to be at the disposal of the church. The title to the property, in the event of such an arrangement being entered into, might very well remain in the present owners, the commissioners of the Public Library being merely the custodians during the will and pleasure of the corporation of Trinity Church.

It is, however, more in the hope of influencing the action of future donors than of altering the present status of affairs that this criticism of a most generous gift is ventured.

Most persons who acquire books in any considerable number, are usually specialists along certain well defined channels, and by gathering together a few collections, and adding such works of general interest as in the opinion of the commissioners might be desirable, a really valuable library might in time be built up.

It was the good fortune of the writer, soon after the arrival of Bishop Kingdon at Fredericton, to make a brief examination of his fine library, then in temporary quarters in the Queen Hotel, and he well remembers the grace and courtesy of the owner, as volume after volume was exhibited and its particular merits or history explained. The following description from the editorial column of the *St. John Globe* of the fourth of September of the present year gives a good idea of the variety and extent of the collection. Therein we read that—

This library is probably the best private theological library in Canada. It comprises over two thousand volumes of historical, exegetical, patristic, textual and homiletical writings, and contains all the standard works and many a volume of great interest. One of the volumes bears the clasp whereby it used to be locked to the desk at the time when placed in public places for the people to read. Many of the books are rare; for example, the works of Labeo (circ. 50 B. C.—18 A. D.), in thirteen large folio volumes, bound in heavy leather.